

App. No. 10/709,316

In the Claims:

1-20 (cancelled)

21. (new) 1. A device comprising: a) load cell; with a shear measurement section; with material being removed to form a plurality of slots; with two or more slots on either side of said shear measurement section which increases deformation points where said slots are connected to a hole within said load cell and are used to equalize stress at deformation points, where said shear measurement section is a gage hole, where strain gages are located in said shear measurement section where there are two slots above said shear measurement section and two slots below said shear measurement section.

22. (new) A device as in claim 21 where said load cell is in the shape of a double S.

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23. (new) A process of measuring force loads using: a) load cell; with a shear measurement section; with material being removed to form a plurality of slots; with two or more slots on either side of said shear measurement section which increases deformation points, where said slots are connected to a hole within said load cell and are used to equalize stress at deformation points, where said shear measurement section is a gage hole where strain gages located in said shear measurement section and where there are two slots above said shear measurement section and two slots below said shear measurement section.

24. (new) A process as in claim 23 where said load cell is in the shape of a double S.